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MAXINE HONG KINGSTON  Photographs of My Parents  102
   “The school seal has been pressed over a photograph of my mother at the age of thirty-seven. . . . She stares straight ahead as if she could see me and past me to her grandchildren and grandchildren's grandchildren.”

JOANNA GREENFIELD  Hyena  108
   “This must be why the hyena has such a snake of a neck—so it can delve deep into a dying animal and eat the best parts before thieves chase it away.”

MARCUS LAFFEY  Cop Diary  120
   “The handcuffs are a tool of the trade and an emblem of it, as are the gun and the nightstick.”

GEORGE SIMPSON  The War Room at Bellevue  129
   “Bellevue. The name conjures up images of an indoor war zone: the wounded and bleeding lining the halls, screaming for help while harried doctors in blood-stained smocks rush from stretcher to stretcher fighting a losing battle against exhaustion and the crushing number of injured.”

GRETEL EHRlich  Struck by Lightning  138
   “I don’t know if I am alive, but if not, how do I know I am dead? My body is leaden, heavier than gravity. Gravity is done with me. No more sinking and rising or bobbing in currents.”

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RICHARD MCKNIGHT The Last Ride 164
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MAYA ANGELOU Finishing School 168
   “Negro girls in small Southern towns, whether poverty-stricken or just
   munching along on a few of life’s necessities, were given as extensive and
   irrelevant preparation for adulthood as rich white girls shown in
   magazines. Admittedly the training was not the same.”

RICHARD SELZER The Masked Marvel’s Last Toehold 176
   “One after the other, a pair of wrestlers enter the ring. The two men join,
   twist, jerk, tug, bend, yank, and throw. Then they leave and are replaced
   by another pair. At last it is the main event. ‘The Angel vs. The Masked
   Marvel.’”

RENE DENFELD The Lady of the Ring 183
   “Sparring with men, I feel liberated from generations of fear, self-doubt,
   finger-waving and genteel restrictions: men aren’t so tough. . . .”

ART HARRIS Trapped in Another Life 187
   “Kay Smith was the very model of a Severn, Md., housewife and
   working mother, so perfect that no one around her can believe she was
   once a hard-drinking, pill-popping criminal with a gun.”

JEFF Z. KLEIN Watching My Back 198
   “Loud, menacing and drunk, one ran up and shoved me, then missed
   with a liquor-slow karate kick. I shoved back. We squared off, staring.”

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DANIELA TAYLOR  We Are Not Alone  216
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AMY TAN  Mother Tongue  221
   “I spend a great deal of my time thinking about the power of language—the way it can evoke an emotion, a visual image, a complex idea, or a simple truth. Language is the tool of my trade. And I use them all—all the Englishes I grew up with.”

BRENT STAPLES  Black Men and Public Space  230
   “My first victim was a woman—white, well-dressed, probably in her late twenties. I came upon her late one evening. . . .”

K.C. COLE  Calculated Risks  238
   “Newsweek magazine plunged American women into a state of near panic some years ago when it announced that the chances of a college-educated thirty-five-year-old woman finding a husband was less than her chance of being killed by a terrorist.”

NEIL POSTMAN  Future Shlock  247
   “This is what I wish to call to your notice: the frightening displacement of serious, intelligent public discourse in American culture by the imagery and triviality of what may be called show business.”

CARYL RIVERS  The Issue Isn’t Sex, It’s Violence  258
   “After a grisly series of murders in California, possibly inspired by the lyrics of a rock song, we are hearing a familiar chorus: Don’t blame rock and roll.”

   Responding to Photographs  264
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JIM CARTOZIAN Two American Writers: Hemingway and Faulkner 278
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RICHARD RODRIGUEZ Los Otros, Mis Hermanos 282
“| I remained a child longer than most; I lingered too long, poised at the edge of language—often frightened by the sounds of los gringos, delighted by the sounds of Spanish at home.” |

BHARATI MUKHERJEE Two Ways to Belong in America 289
“This is a tale of two sisters from Calcutta, Mira and Bharati, who have lived in the United States for some 35 years, but who find themselves on different sides in the current debate of the status of immigrants.”

DEBORAH TANNEN Sex, Lies, and Conversation 295
“How can women and men have such different impressions of communication in marriage?”

ELLEN CURRIE Two Varieties of Killers 303
“Crime seems to me less sociable these days, if I am right in taking ‘sociable’ to mean human and comprehensible and even sympathetic. The crimes get bigger and more horrible, and yet we are not sufficiently horrified by them. . . . “

TERESA L. EBERT AND MAS’UD ZAVARZADEH Our American Diet Divides Us Into Classes of Workers and Bosses 308
“Like everything else in social life, diets are determined not by what people desire but by the conditions of their class. This is quite an un-American thing to say, but people eat class and not food. . . . “
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7 / Cause and Effect: Identifying Reasons and Results 317
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TOM KIM Cheating: A Growing Campus Problem 327
Reviewing with a Writer's Eye 330
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STEPHEN KING Why We Crave Horror Movies 332
“The mythic horror movie, like the sick joke, has a dirty job to do. It deliberately appeals to all that is worst in us. It is morbidly unchained, our most base instincts let free, our nastiest fantasies realized . . . and it all happens, fitfully enough, in the dark.”

NEAL GABLER How Urban Myths Reveal Society's Fears 337
“In these stories, anything can happen, not because the world's a magical place rich with wonder—as in folktales of yore—but because our world is so utterly terrifying.”

JUDITH GAINES The “Beefcake Years” 343
“After decades when scantily clad women have been used to lure buyers to everything from soap to Subarus, advertisers have discovered they can treat men as commercial sex objects, too.”

GINA GREENLEE No Tears for Frankie 349
“I was in the fifth grade when Frankie died. My whole class planned to attend the funeral. My father thought going might give me nightmares, but I insisted. I had never seen a dead person before. Most of all, I wanted to be sure that the little creep would never touch me again.”

LEONCE GAITER The Revolt of the Black Bourgeoisie 354
“Imagine being told by your peers, the records you hear, the programs you watch, the 'leaders' you see on TV, classmates, prospective
employers—imagine being told by virtually everyone that in order to be your true self you must be ignorant and poor, or at least seem so.”

WILLIAM SEVERINI KOWINSKI  

Kids in the Mall: Growing Up Controlled  

“While families nurture children by encouraging growth through the assumption of responsibility and then by letting them rest in the bosom of the family from the rigors of growing up, the mall as a structural mother encourages passivity and consumption.”

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JOHN BARTON  

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GARRY TRUDEAU  

Anatomy of a Joke  384

“The polish man, usually a woman, is the joke’s editor, charged with burnishing the joke until it gleams.”

FRANK GANNON  

Rat Patrol: A Saga  390

“He has been showing . . . an unhealthy interest in explosives, detonation, carnage, destruction, and other allegedly unhealthy aspects of life.”

DONALD M. MURRAY  

The Maker’s Eye: Revising Your Own Manuscripts  398

“Rewriting isn’t virtuous. It isn’t something that ought to be done. It is simply something that most writers find they have to do to discover what they have to say and how to say it. It is a condition of the writer’s life.”
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ALISON LURIE  American Regional Costume 420
   “Even today, when the American landscape is becoming more and more homogeneous, there is really no such thing as an all-American style of dress.”

JOHN HOLT  Three Kinds of Discipline 428
   “We hear constantly that children will never do anything unless compelled to by bribes and threats. But in their private lives, or in extracurricular activities in school, in sports, music, drama, art, running a newspaper and so on, they often submit themselves willingly and wholeheartedly to very intense disciplines. . . .”

WILLIAM LUTZ  Doublespeak 434
   “Sometimes gobbledygook may sound impressive, but when the quote is later examined in print it doesn’t even make sense.”

PAUL SHEEHAN  My Habit 442
   “As I have wandered around rough neighborhoods, talking to addicts and cops and scholars, the underground world of crack has revealed some of itself to me.”

JIM SPRING  Exercising the Brain 451
   “Norma Puzzle invited Charlie to a concert a month away, and Charlie said he ‘really wanted to go.’ Norma considered it a date. But when she showed up to take him, Charlie wasn’t home.”
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CHRIS SCHNEIDER Myth Redefined 470
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MARIE WINN TV Addiction 474
“When we think about addiction to drugs or alcohol we frequently focus on negative aspects, ignoring the pleasures that accompany drinking or drug-taking.”

ANNA QUINDLEN Homeless 479
“Homes have stopped being homes. Now they are real estate.”

FRANCINE PROSE Gossip 483
“Gossip must be nearly as old as language itself. It was, I imagine, the earliest recreational use of the spoken word.”

GLORIA NAYLON A Word’s Meaning Can Often Depend on Who Says It 488
“The spoken word, like the written word, amounts to a nonsensical arrangement of sounds or letters without a consensus that assigns ‘meaning’. . . . Words themselves are innocuous; it is the consensus that gives them true power.”

ROSE DEL CASTILLO GUILBAULT Americanization Is Tough on “Macho” 494
“What is macho? That depends which side of the border you come from. . . . Take the newspaper descriptions of alleged mass murderer Ramon Salcido. That an insensitive, insanely jealous, hard-drinking, violent Latin male is referred to as macho makes Hispanics cringe.”
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ROLANDA BURRIS  Here’s Looking at Reality, Kid 523
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TOM REGAN  Animal Rights, Human Wrongs 528
“It would be grotesque to suggest that the whale, the rabbit, the gibbon, the bobbie calf, the millions of animals brought so much pain and death at the hands of humans are not harmed, for harm is not restricted to human beings.”

STEPHEN ROSE  Proud to Be a Speciesist 536
“Many human diseases and disorders are found in other mammals—which is why we can learn how to treat them by research on animals.”

STEPHANIE COONTZ  A Nation of Welfare Families 542
“. . . the 1950s suburban family was far more dependent on government welfare assistance than any so-called underclass family of today.”

DAVID KELLEY  The End of Welfare as We Know It? 550
“The premise of the welfare state—the sprawling network of programs for transferring wealth from taxpayers to recipients—is that the world does owe us a living.”

GERARD JONES  Violent Media Is Good for Kids 556
“My parents, not trusting the violent world of the late 1960s, built a wall between me and the crudest elements of American pop culture. . . . Then the Incredible Hulk smashed through it.”
“Defenders of bloodshed in film, television, and writing often argue that depictions of killing don’t incite real violence because no one is really affected by what they see or read: it’s all just water off a duck’s back.”

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JONATHAN SWIFT A Modest Proposal 608
“I have been assured by a very knowing American of my acquaintance in London, that a young healthy child well nursed is at a year old a most delicious, nourishing, and wholesome food, whether stewed, roasted, baked, or boiled.”

GEORGE ORWELL A Hanging 618
“The hangman climbed down and stood ready, holding the lever. Minutes seemed to pass. The steady, muffled crying from the prisoner went on and on . . . never faltering for an instant.”
“You remember one thing, and that suddenly reminds you of another thing. I guess I remember clearest of all the early mornings, when the lake was cool and motionless. . . .”

“... when it is end game, and no way back, pain is likely to be turned off, and the mechanisms for this are wonderfully precise and quick.”

“The secret of torture, like the secret of French cuisine, is that nothing is unthinkable.”

“My father has always wanted me to have a gun. ... [H]e offered to buy me a handgun. A small one, ladylike, to keep in my nightstand. I told him I did not have a nightstand, and he offered to buy me one of those as well.”

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Pairs of Essays

Although the selections in The Longwood Reader are arranged by rhetorical patterns, we have included a Thematic Table of Contents grouping the selections under sixteen subject areas.

In addition, we offer the following suggestions for those who wish to assign pairs of essays. Such pairing may be useful for discussion of contrary and/or complementary views of similar subjects or situations, choices of style and presentation strategies, as well as different ways of using a particular rhetorical strategy.

Individual teachers will, of course, discover additional pairings equally valid and informative.

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